

LAKE 69 (CLASSIC)

About this tour

Hiking start:	Cebollapampa	Hiking end:	Cebollapampa
Hiking time:	5:45 hrs.	Driving time:	6:00 hrs.
Ascent:	739m. / 2,424ft.	Descent:	739m. / 2,424ft.

Overview:

The Laguna 69 hike is the most popular you can do in the White Mountain Range. Nestled between the sacred mountains of Chacaraju and Pisco, it's a spiritually-charged must-see. Incredible place to appreciate the natural charm of the Andes' bright blue glacial lakes. This isn't surprising as it's one of the most scenic hikes you've ever done, ending with the bluest lake we've ever seen! There's no wonder it ends up on so many peoples bucket lists.

Our Itinerary

Located at an altitude of 4,603 m (15,102 ft), Lake 69 lies just at the flank of The Pisco and Chacaraju Mountains. This is one of the most beautiful turquoise glacial lakes in the northern Cordillera Blanca. In fact, the entire hike is among the most spectacular in the region.

After an early departure from your hotel, we'll drive north along the Callejon de Huaylas. On reaching the village of Yungay we'll head east, driving up a dirt road that traverses the Llanganuco Valley. We will pass the Chinancocha and Orconcocha Lakes to arrive at Cebollapampa, which, at 3,915 m (12,845 ft), will be our starting point for the hike to Lake 69.

This trek is considered by many hikers to be one of the most impressive scenic day hikes in the entire Cordillera Blanca. On a clear day, we'll be mesmerized by the resplendence of this sparkling lake, as you gaze upon its crystalline blue reflective waters. A cascading waterfall adorns one side of the lake, adding to the natural beauty of the scene.

As for the hike itself, the first hour is fairly level, as we pass through forests of Quenua (Polylepis) trees, with a backdrop of the summits of Huascaran Mountain, the highest peak in the Cordillera Blanca, as well as Chopicalqui and Yanapaccha. A winding ascent brings us to the first small lake, whilst we enjoy views of the snow-capped summits of Chacaraju, Yanapaccha, Huascaran, and Chopicalqui. We'll be able to observe some cascading white waterfalls along the way.

As we continue our ascent, we'll finish with a short but somewhat challenging push up the track, and then we are at the lake! Bask in the indescribable beauty of this area, set against imposing Mounts Pisco and Chacaraju. Immerse ourselves in wonder as we relax, take photos, and enjoy a well-earned lunch, while taking in the view. We'll descend by the same route to Cebollapampa, where our transportation awaits.

Included:

- Transportation
- Professional bilingual guide
- Box lunch
- Entrance tickets
- First Aid Kit

Not included:

- Personal travel insurance
- Additional services
- Tips

- Extras

What to take:

- Short-sleeved shirts or t-shirts of breathable fabrics, like nylon and polyester
- Light insulation long sleeve jacket
- Waterproof jacket (if it's the rainy season, we recommend you also bring rain pants)
- Hiking pants or shorts, preferably made of QuickDry material
- Light cap
- Breathable sports or hiking socks
- Multifunctional headwear (for example, Buff)
- Waterproof and breathable light hiking boots
- Trekking Poles (rent available)
- Day Pack (preferably with rain cover)
- Sunglasses, sunblock, lip balm, and repellent
- Reusable water bottle
- Personal First Aid Kit (recommended)